



St. Andrew's Tidings

Message from Margaret

For many years, throughout our Anglican Communion, the Fourth Sunday of Easter has been declared “Good Shepherd Sunday.” It is the time when we focus on those many passages where this particular figure of speech is used to describe God’s relationship to us and our vocation to each other. As you well know, Jesus often spoke of himself as the good Shepherd. When he was re-commissioning the forgiven Simon-Peter, Jesus deliberately chose pastoral images. He said, “Feed my sheep—tend my lambs—nurture my flock.” This seems to be one of the primal images the Holy Spirit has given us to help us understand the nature of God, our own nature, and the task to which we have been called. And therefore, it is something like a window that is opened up into deeper mysteries.

The Good Shepherd’s relationship with the flock is like Jesus’ own intimate relationship with the Father. Jesus knows the sheep just as they in turn know him, and loves his flock with the same love that Abba the Father has for him. The laying down of his life is the Gospel’s way of describing Jesus’ redeeming sacrifice that comes out of his oneness with God. Jesus has come to earth to do the Father’s will and to reveal the Father’s love.

But the flock is not just limited to a few disciples in Galilee and Judea. There are other sheep that “do not belong to this fold” who must be included. So as the Lord describes his vocation, he intends that all the sheep will hear his voice and follow him. Now the world beyond Israel will be included in the fold of Jesus the Shepherd as he willingly gives up his life.

Now, we moderns really don’t have much experience with sheep, unless you know someone who has a sheep farm. So the sheep/shepherd image might be quaint, and we remember the line from the 1940 BCP which said, “we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep.” But, actually that’s what we do sometimes. But the good news is that the Unseen Shepherd stands ready to lead us and guide us and preserve us in ways that we cannot fathom, but only trust. That is the promise of the Gospel. To the degree that we seem to be willing to be led and directed is the degree to which we can consciously participate in the mystery of

this Beautiful Love, and in turn, become anointed beauty givers as under-shepherds to the Good Shepherd. What good news it is that “Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us all the days of our lives, and we will dwell in the house of the Lord forever!”

*Blessings and love,
Margaret+*

Events Coming Up

St Andrew's Spring Concert Series

PAT C performing on Sunday May 10th 4 p.m.

The Stacey Holliday Trio performing on Sunday, June 7th, 4 p.m.

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*Fourth of July Celebration on the Front Lawn; Music, Food, Fun and fireworks.*

*St. Andrew's Spring  
Concert Season*

*May 10th 4:00 p.m.  
Mother's Day Concert With  
Pat C*



Pat C is the featured vocalist at Triple JJJ Restaurant on Thursday evenings. She sings everything from the Beatles to John Denver to Patsy Cline! It is truly easy listening! She recently sang for us during the reception when the Bishop was here. Get your favorite mother and bring her to this exciting Concert. Let's have a big crowd!

*The Stacey Holliday Trio*  
*Sunday, June 7<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m.*



Stacey will perform, along with violin and cello, an incredible classical program with a few other things thrown in. She is pictured here with Ann Wilson the cellist. The concert will begin at 4 p.m. Mark your calendars now so we will have a wonderful crowd!

## *Region VI Party for Bishop and Kathy Duncan*

As most of you know, we are divided into regions in the diocese. Our region consists of those parishes on this side of the diocese: Panama City, Panama City Beach, Apalachicola, and Port St. Joe. We will be having a party to say “good-bye” to Bishop and Mrs. Duncan on May 27<sup>th</sup> at Holy Nativity. Bishop Duncan will confirm and baptize at 6 p.m., and this will be followed by a hamburger/hot dog cook out at 7:30 p.m.. There will be a band and lots of fun. You are to BYO, but the food and sides will be furnished. Let’s have a great crowd from St. Andrew’s to attend. There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board as we need to let Holy Nativity know how many so they can prepare enough hamburgers. All the clergy from our region will participate in the service. If you want to be baptized or confirmed, please speak to Margaret+.

***THERE IS ONE ST. ANDREW'S PEW LEFT! IT IS IN BYRNE HALL!***

## **SUPPER @ GRACE**

Thank you to everyone who served at Supper @ Grace blessing those in need: Gail Tambarino, Shirley Gobat, Jeannie Cirks, Jona Swift, Tom Brewer, Mary Johnson, Tania Watts, Diane Tate and Teri Floore. We prepared approximately 100 meals (both eat in and takeout) and 50 sack lunches. This ministry’s only requirement is a willingness to serve. The evening had a special twist. We were short of volunteers and several of our guests showed their gratitude by helping clean up the Grace Parish hall. Our next turn to provide the meal is Thursday, June 18<sup>th</sup>- save the date and join us! Funds for Supper @ Grace are provided by the St. Andrew Foundation.

# GROCERY CART MINISTRY

Our May Grocery Cart item is **CANNED MEAT OR FISH**. All food collected is donated to the St. Andrew Baptist Benevolence Mission for distribution within our local community. Please help our needy neighbors enjoy a nutritious meal by purchasing some **CANNED MEAT OR FISH** for the Grocery Cart.



Wed., April 22, was the blessing and initial planting of fruits, vegetables, and flowers in the St. Andrew Oaks Garden of Hope. Ms. Been's second grade class from Oakland Terrace Elementary School walked from the school and arrived at the church's vacant lot at 1:00 p.m. The students proudly wore their gardening aprons and were ready to get to work! They listened as a litany of prayers was offered by The Rev. Dr. Margaret Shepard and members of St. Andrew's. Then the students, assisted by the volunteers, eagerly began getting their hands dirty and planting the seedlings in the raised beds. When all was planted, the students enjoyed some refreshing cold water and were asked to sit on blankets and write about the experience in their plant journals. This is an exciting new ministry and the students and teacher are very appreciative.

Many thanks are extended to all who participated on Wed. and to all who have contributed to this ministry. Special thanks to Pablo Coronel and The Home Depot on 23<sup>rd</sup> St. for their generous support. If you would like to become involved, please contact Laurie Ayers.

**An Interesting Bit of Trivia: While preparing the Parochial Report, we discovered that the attendance increase for 2014 over 2013, was 1,057! This included being in Byrne Hall during the construction. The increase continues for 2015 over 2014 as well. This is great news.**

## **PRESCRIPTION PILL BOTTLES**

**St. Andrew Baptist Church provides a medical ministry for people in the community who need medical aid but are unable to pay for it. It is staffed by volunteer health professionals and funded by the church and some community agencies. One of its needs is *empty* prescription pill bottles with labels removed. If you have empty bottles please leave them in the Grocery Cart baskets under the bulletin board in Byrne Hall. Questions??- ask Margaret Seeberger.**

# Praying in COLOR

Here are some reasons to join us as we learn how to Pray in Color:

.You want to pray but words escape you. 2) **Sitting still and staying focused in prayer are a challenge.**

3) **Your body wants to be part of your prayer.**

4) **You want to just hang out with God but don't know how.** 5)

**Listening to God feels like an**

**impossible task.** 6) **Your mind wanders and your body complains.** 7) **You want a visual, concrete way to pray.**

8) **You Need a new way to pray.**

## ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST PANAMA CITY

*PRAYING IN COLOR = PRAYER + DOODLING*

Presented by: **Sybil MacBeth**

Author of Praying in Color

Time: 9:00 am– 12:00 **May 2nd**

Cost: \$20

Includes breakfast pastries, fruit, coffee and juice

Space is limited

RSVP: Charlotte Dickey 850-303-1200 or [stj.dre@knology.net](mailto:stj.dre@knology.net)

Books will be available for purchase

*Please keep the following in your prayers : Warren, Ruth Ann, Iva, , Rosemary,, Walt, Susan, Mary, Diane, Robin, Tammy, Alex, Betty, Jim, Mikey, Larry, Gary, Jonathan, Pat, Marty, Rita, Eric, Stephanie, Elijah, Dorothy, Dan, David, Don and Family, Kristy, Austin, Sandra, Anne, Tracy, Page, Norma, Lisa, Elaine, Madison, Bob, Toni, Jimmy, Faye, Shawn and John, Beth, Carol, Virginia, Iva, Frank*

*We pray for our men and women in the Armed Forces at home and abroad: Jeff, James, Andrew, Kenneth, Evan, Ryan, Joe, Nate, Richard, David, Brian, Jason, Billy, Colin, Todd, Brett, Jordan, Jeremiah*